

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 01575 261933Z
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05 SOE-02 DODE-00
DOE-11 SS-15 SP-02 PM-05 H-01 PA-01 PRS-01
USIA-06 /117 W
-----033808 261959Z /45

P 261734Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4499
INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 01575

ALSO FOR USEEC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS:ENRG, TECH, EEC, BE
SUBJECT: RENEGOTIATION OF US - EURATOM AGREEMENT:
DISCUSSION WITH MFA OFFICIAL

REF: BRUSSELS 1425; STATE 14756;

1. EMBASSY ECOM COUNSELOR TOOK OCCASION OF DR. TELLER
PRESENTATION ON NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION AT USIS/
AMERICAN LIBRARY JANUARY 25 TO DISCUSS INFORMALLY
US POSITION ON RENEGOTIATION OF US-EURATOM AGREEMENT WITH
SIMONE HERPELS, NUCLEAR AFFAIRS DIRECTOR AT THE MINISTRY
OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

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2. ECOMCOUNS RESTATED THE ELEMENTS OF US POSITION,
STRESSING THAT GOB AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO UNDERTAKE
NEGOTIATIONS IMPLIED NO REPEAT NO PRIOR CONCESSION
ON THE SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED ONCE SERIOUS
NEGOTIATIONS GOT UNDERWAY. HE ALSO EMPHASIZED
IMPORTANCE FOR ALL CONCERNED OF AVOIDING A GRADUAL
SLIDE INTO A RIGID CONFRONTATIONAL SITUATION ONCE THE

NON-PROLIFERATION BILL BECAME LAW. HE NOTED THE REAL DANGER OF THIS OCCURRING SHOULD THE FRENCH COME TO FEEL CONSTRAINED POLITICALLY NOT TO COMPROMISE THEIR POSITION ONCE THE ISSUE "WENT PUBLIC".

3. HERPELS RECOGNIZED THE DANGERS THAT REFUSAL BY EURATOM COUNTRIES TO AGREE TO NEGOTIATE, FOLLOWED BY PASSAGE OF BILL AND BY NRC REFUSAL TO GRANT LICENSES, COULD EASILY BECOME "MAJOR INTERNATIONAL ISSUE" BETWEEN US AND EURATOM COUNTRIES. SHE STUCK, HOWEVER, TO GOB POSITION THAT AGREEMENT TO NEGOTIATE (A) WOULD IMPLY ADVANCE ACCEPTANCE OF BILL'S STRICTER CONTROLS, (B) IGNORED THAT BILL WAS STILL BEFORE CONGRESS AND THAT CHANGES WERE POSSIBLE; AND, (C) WOULD SIGNAL THAT EURATOM COUNTRIES WERE ACCEPTING A QUALITATIVE CHANGE IN US ATTITUDE TOWARD EURATOM.

4. ALTHOUGH WE DID NOT BUDGE HERPELS FROM HER STRONG VIEWS ON THE ISSUE, WE BELIEVE OUR DISCUSSION MAY HAVE SERVED THE PURPOSE OF EMPHASIZING TO HER THE POTENTIAL THAT EXISTS FOR A BREAKDOWN IN US-EURATOM RELATIONS. WE MAY ALSO HAVE DISABUSED HER OF NOTION THAT BILL WOULD NOT BE ENACTED BY CONGRESS OR MAY BE SUBSTANTIALLY MODIFIED TO INCLUDE EVEN MORE PRIVILEGED POSITION TO EURATOM.

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5. ACTION REQUESTED: HERPELS ASKED US URGENTLY FOR ADMINISTRATION'S BEST ESTIMATE OF WHEN CONGRESS WILL ENACT THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION. SHE ALSO EXPRESSED SERIOUS CONCERN OVER LANGUAGE IN SECTION 402 OF BILL -- APPARENTLY THE SENATE VERSION -- WHICH, IN HER VIEW, WOULD CREATE SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES RESPECTING SHIPMENTS OF FISSILE MATERIAL FROM THE US TO EURATOM MEMBERS BY, IN EFFECT, PROHIBITING URENCO OR EURODIF ENRICHMENT OF DEPLETED FUEL. WE WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS ON THESE TWO POINTS. ALSO PLEASE AIRPOUCH COPIES OF BOTH SENATE AND HOUSE VERSIONS OF THE BILL.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGREEMENTS, ENERGY, NEGOTIATIONS, NUCLEAR COOPERATION PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: DG ALTERED
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780039-0528
Format: TEL
From: BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780121/aaaaarjl.tel
Line Count: 105
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ea4809e0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Content Flags:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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TAGS: ENRG, TECH, BE, EEC
To: STATE
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vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ea4809e0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
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20 Mar 2014
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